



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



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Columbia Library Columns

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Frontispiece from Marco Polo's account of his voyages, now on display with an Exhibition of the rarest treasures of the Columbia Library. This is the first printed edition (1477). The German text above reads as follows: *This is the noble knight Marco Polo of Venice, the great traveler, who describes for us the great wonder of the world which he himself has seen from the rising to the setting sun, the like of which has never been heard of before.* (Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Solton Engel)



COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS



Putting the John Jay Papers to Work

RICHARD B. MORRIS

THROUGH purchase or gift the Library's Special Collections has acquired some five thousand papers by or relating to John Jay, involving correspondence with more than 250 individuals. The original purchase from the Iselin family of several years ago has been supplemented by further substantial acquisitions. Outstanding among the recent donors are descendants of John Jay, including Mrs. Arthur M. R. Hughes of Rochester, New York, Mrs. Pierre Jay and Miss Frances Jay of New York City, and Mrs. Peter Augustus Jay of Washington, D. C. These acquisitions have established Columbia University as a notable center for American studies in the Revolutionary and early National periods. In addition to the Jay Papers, the Library now owns the Gouverneur Morris Papers, the De Witt Clinton Papers, and a considerable number of Alexander Hamilton originals, along with photocopies of all known Hamilton manuscripts.

Though extensive and important, the Jay collection represents only a portion of the Jay Papers in this country and abroad. Hence, the John Jay Papers project, which began operations in the late spring of 1959 under an initial grant from the Avalon Foundation, seeks to supplement our Jay collection of original documents with photocopies of Jay Papers both here and abroad.

The John Jay Papers project has the following specific objectives: (1) the assembling and organizing of the entire John Jay

collection—originals and photocopies, which are to be made available at the Columbia University Libraries for the legitimate research needs of scholars; (2) the publication of at least one substantial volume of highly significant but hitherto unpublished Jay Papers, with appropriate editorial apparatus; (3) the production of a definitive monograph on American foreign policy in some area of Jay's major activities; and (4) the conducting of an intensive search (in cooperation with the project for the writing of the history of the Supreme Court under the Oliver Wendell Holmes devise) for papers relating to the legal and judicial career of Jay, which should provide an important and fresh collection of documents for research in early American legal and constitutional history and contribute to our knowledge of the formative years of the Supreme Court.

The original acquisition prompted the investigation; the organization and underwriting of the project has set the inquiry in motion; and now an exciting search is under way in this country and abroad to acquire photocopies of papers to, from, and about Jay. As of December 15, 1959, it is estimated that the project has already collected photocopies of over six thousand items, mainly from such repositories in the United States as the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the New York Historical Society, the New York Public Library, the Morgan Library, the State Library at Albany, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Huntington Library. The Jay Papers project is working in close collaboration with other similar enterprises, notably with the Adams, Jefferson, and Hamilton publication programs. These other projects have a good many Jay items, the Adams Collection alone containing some five hundred of them. In turn, our own Jay Collection possesses numerous unpublished letters from other founding fathers, which are being made available to editors of these other scholarly publication programs.

Searchers engaged abroad in quest of Jay papers have already located a substantial cache of them in the Archivo Histórico

Nacional in Madrid and the Archivo General de Indias in Seville, among the British Foreign Office records in the Public Office, London, and in the archives of the French Ministère des Affaires Etrangères. Other foreign archives, such as those at The Hague, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Vienna, and Lisbon will also be examined for correspondence relating to Jay's negotiations as Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

It is too early for anything like a balanced appraisal of the significance of the John Jay manuscript collection or of the photocopies which are being rapidly accumulated. A few exceptionally interesting "finds" might well be mentioned by way of a preliminary report. The first and foremost is *Federalist* No. 64. The Iselin Collection contained only one draft of the *Federalist* papers—No. 5. But drafts of the other papers which Jay had written—Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 64—were once known to have been in possession of the family. Where were the others? Since no drafts of the *Federalist* letters are extant in either Hamilton's or Madison's hand, the location of these Jay letters took on special significance for our project. Working among the uncatalogued papers of the New York Historical Society, Catherine Snell Crary, a Research Associate on the Jay project and a member of the faculty of Finch College, came across a draft of No. 64. Immediately some questions had to be answered. How did No. 64 get into the possession of the New York Historical Society? Had anyone ever seen it before outside of the Jay family? Why was it uncatalogued?

These are the facts. In 1863, John Jay, distinguished grandson of the Chief Justice, turned over this draft of No. 64 to the director of the Historical Society to show to Mr. Henry B. Dawson, then engaged in editing the *Federalist* papers. Since the *Federalist* letters had been published under the pseudonym "Publius," there existed at that time a controversy as to the authorship of a number of the papers. Hamilton in one place attributed the authorship to Jay, but in the so-called "Benson list," which Hamilton allegedly wrote two days before his duel with Burr, he claimed that num-

ber for himself. In one place an anonymous writer on the basis of an alleged "pencilled memorandum in the handwriting of Mr. Madison," claimed No. 64 for Madison, but in three other places Madison correctly attributed it to Jay, and that was undoubtedly his best recollection. The locating of the item by Jay's grandson definitely established the authorship of the paper. However, the New York Historical Society inadvertently failed to return the document to John Jay's grandson, and it was not known to be in the Society's possession. What really matters about the finding of the draft of No. 64 is not that it settles the authorship of the letter, for the internal evidence definitely pointed toward Jay, but that we now have an opportunity for the first time in a great many years to observe at close hand how a co-author of *The Federalist* reworked his arguments in order to present them more concisely.

The Jay project has turned up a number of other interesting items. In the Secret Archives of the Vatican, reports of the nuncio to Paris have been photocopied, revealing de facto relations between the official Vatican representative and the American peace commissioners in Paris. In the city archives of Geneva correspondence to and from John Jay was uncovered. It related to a search for Albert Gallatin that was made at the behest of Gallatin's friends who passed on to the Secretary of Foreign Affairs a report, perhaps exaggerated, that the Swiss emigrant was missing.

When the Jay project is completed, it is estimated that Special Collections will possess some 25,000 Jay papers, originals and photocopies. Once the tasks of searching out, gathering, organizing, indexing, and abstracting this material have been accomplished, scholars will have an impressive collection of source material for the Revolutionary and early National periods to study. Perhaps they will be able to answer with more positiveness than we can now some of the very "hot" questions involving this major political figure. Was John Jay correct when, as a member of the commission negotiating peace with Great Britain in 1782, he insisted on preliminary recognition of American independence

before continuing negotiations with the British or did he, by so doing, delay negotiation until the British military posture had improved and they felt strong enough to refuse to yield all the territory Franklin had first demanded? Did Jay really try to sell out the Western states in his negotiations with Spain after the Revolution? Could Jay have obtained a better treaty than he did from Lord Grenville in 1794, and on balance was Jay's Treaty advantageous or not for the United States? Lastly, was Jay sound in his majority opinion in *Chisholm v. Georgia*, in which as Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court he upheld the right of a citizen of another state to sue, and was the Eleventh Amendment, in response to Jay's expression of vigorous nationalism, a mistake?

These are major questions. Perhaps the notable collection of John Jay Papers will in time provide some of the answers.

The Most Famous Student in Columbia's First Class— De Witt Clinton

VIVIAN C. HOPKINS

COLUMBUS, young De Witt Clinton informed the committee in charge of the public entrance examination on May 17, 1784, had at last come into his own. The fame, which had been denied him by the country he discovered, would henceforth be granted by the newly resuscitated King's College, which had been renamed "Columbia," mother of the arts and sciences and center of culture in New York State. The fifteen-year-old youth proceeded to state some of the projects which, as a mature man, he was later to foster: the development of agriculture and commerce, the defense of liberty under the sanctions of law, and the welcoming of Europe's "oppressed" to the American republic.

De Witt Clinton, George Livingston, and Philip Livingston, admitted as juniors, became the first entering class of Columbia, under the tutelage of William Cochran, Professor of Greek and Latin. (Later John Bassett, Abraham Hun, Samuel Smith, Jr., Peter Steddiford and Francis Sylvester joined the class.) Columbia would have been at least a year farther behind in the race with Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, had the Mayor of New York, James Duane, not applied pressure on that infant organization, the Regents of the University of the State of New York, to reactivate King's College, on behalf of De Witt Clinton. To Duane it was unthinkable that the son of a Revolutionary officer, James Clinton, and the nephew of the Governor, George Clinton, should have to go out of the state to be educated at the College of New Jersey.



DEWITT CLINTON. Engraving by John Francis Eugene Prud'homme, after portrait by Charles Ingham.

By November, 1784, more professors were added: John Kemp, Mathematics and Moral Philosophy; the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Moore, Rhetoric and Logic; the Rev. Dr. John Gross, German, Geography, and, later, Moral Philosophy; Dr. Samuel Bard, a medical man, Natural Philosophy and Astronomy; the blind Dr. Henry Moyes, lecturer in Natural Philosophy and Chemistry. Clinton's favorites among his professors were the Reverend Dr. Moore, whose lectures fascinated him; Dr. Gross, whose active share in the Revolution caught Clinton's imagination (despite Gross's advocacy of Leibnitz's philosophy, which Clinton could not share, he revered the teacher "this side idolatry"); and Dr. Bard, who became a lifelong friend. Instruction began in the old City Hall on Wall Street, while the college building on Broadway, used for a British hospital during the Revolution, was renovated. The sensitive Clinton was revolted by the latter building. Forty-three years later, in his *Address to the Alumni* in May, 1827, he recalled his early impression of it: "The genius of calamity and desolation appeared to have taken possession of its apartments; its floors were strewn with medical prescriptions, its walls were tinged with blood, and every echo of your passing footsteps sounded to the perturbed imagination like the murmurs of the dying or the complaints of departed spirits." Yet Clinton enjoyed his college years, as his biographer, Dorothe Bobbé, has told us. He formed his closest friendships with Sylvester and Hun, and belonged to the Uranian Society, which was devoted to debating and good fellowship. After graduation, Clinton read a piece called "Uranian Society, A Dream," on January 6, 1789, in mock-heroic style, stating that the members were polytheists who worshiped the twin goddesses of friendship and literature, and caricaturing a previous quarrel among the members.

On April 11, 1786, Columbia's first commencement was held at St. Paul's Church. The audience was even more impressed by Clinton's Latin salutation to the members of Congress and the State Legislature, Regents and Professors, than by his elegant ora-

tion, *De utilitate et necessitate studiorum artium liberalium*. An interesting link with the past was the conducting of divine service by the Reverend Mr. Samuel Provoost, chairman of the Board of Trustees, and a graduate of the first class of King's College in 1758. The Columbia College class of '86, with which Clinton graduated, received only temporary certificates. At the Commencement of 1789, however, after William Samuel Johnson had been appointed President, Clinton received both the A.B. and the M.A. degrees.

After graduation, Clinton kept in close touch with his Alma Mater, attending for several years the weekly meetings of the Columbia College Society, a debating group. As its president, he spoke impressively on November 13, 1788, about the advantage of disputation, even over college studies, for all professions except, possibly, medicine. Retiring from the presidency in September, 1791, he sternly reminded the members to prepare their speeches more carefully and attend meetings more regularly.*

Clinton was officially a trustee of Columbia College for one year only, 1808, but in June, 1811, having become Mayor of New York, he, together with General Matthew Clarkson and with Henry Rutgers (the Regents who resided in New York City), began proposals to consolidate the faculties of Columbia's College of Medicine and of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Their formal proposal to the Regents was made January 29, 1814. Despite the able assistance of Clinton's former teacher, Dr. Samuel Bard, intra-mural jealousy defeated this effort. (The faculties were not united until June, 1860.) But Clinton continued to share actively in the medical as well as the scientific interests of his doctor friends, Samuel L. Mitchill, David Hosack and John W. Francis. He wrote to Dr. Francis on April 10, 1823, urging him to increase the number of graduates. Pleased that the College of Physicians and Surgeons had graduated 47 doctors, he reminded his friend that Philadelphia was still ahead, with 101: "We want quantity as well

* Manuscripts. New York State Library, Albany.

as quality—numbers as well as skill.” Of a doctor’s recent victory in a duel, he commented: “Do, dear Doctor, avoid strife and pugnacious deeds. Your vocation is production—not extermination—healing not wounding—life not death.”

In the summer of 1811, as Mayor of New York and presiding Judge of the Grand Jury, Clinton had the embarrassing task of trying the offenders in a riot at the Columbia Commencement in Trinity Church on August 7. John B. Stevenson, refusing to change his Commencement oration, had been denied his degree by the faculty. At Commencement, Stevenson’s friends protested, and violence ensued. Stevenson’s most active supporters were two alumni, Hugh Maxwell, 1808 (later District Attorney of New York City, and U.S. Collector of the Port of New York), and Guilian C. Verplanck, 1801, a rising young lawyer. As all three culprits came from prominent families, they expected no more than a mild rebuke from the Mayor; instead, they were given a severe tongue lashing and fines of \$200 each. The immediate result was a gain for Clinton with the Federalists; but this kind of approval, his brother-in-law Judge Ambrose Spencer told him on September 23, was transitory. Actually the political antagonism of Verplanck, who attacked Clinton in 1815 under the name of “Abimelech Coody,” dated from this hour.*

As Governor, Clinton always included the upstate colleges, Union and Hamilton, in his appeals to the legislature for educational support (and he sent his son George to Hamilton), but it was clear that Columbia retained first place in his affections. In 1824 his Alma Mater conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws, following the lead of Queen’s College (now Rutgers), which had given him this degree in 1812. On November 4, 1825, in the magnificent land parade that celebrated the completion of

* By 1832, however, Ogden Hoffman, friend of Verplanck and enemy of Clinton, could surmount political prejudice and recognize Clinton’s services “as a patriot and public benefactor” (*An Address . . . before the . . . Alumni of Columbia College . . .* May 2, 1832 [New York, 1832]). The copy in Special Collections is inscribed “Giulian C. Verplanck, Esq. from O. Hoffman”).

the Erie Canal, the Columbia delegation made an impressive show, with the students marching in collegiate robes and with the janitor at the head, carrying a huge allegorical banner.

After Clinton's death, his son Charles gave to Columbia the chair that Clinton died in; during Nicholas Murray Butler's tenure, this was kept in the President's office; it is now in Columbiana. A portrait by Henry Inman, presented in 1857, hangs in Low Memorial Library; another portrait, by an unknown artist, is in the Men's Faculty Club. Clinton himself felt that his collection of scientific specimens, which had been gathered by friends all over America and by sea captains from foreign parts and which was particularly strong in geology and ichthyology, was his greatest bequest to Columbia. Unfortunately this collection has disappeared. But, for scholars in the political, economic, social, scientific and literary issues of the early nineteenth century, an even more valuable gift was the Clinton Papers, which were presented in 1902 by William C. Schermerhorn, class of 1840 and Trustee, 1860-1903. Ably catalogued by Adelaide Rudolph, these Papers represent one of the most valuable and most widely consulted sets of manuscripts in Special Collections—a fitting memorial at Columbia to the achievement of one of the first three of her entrants, De Witt Clinton.*

* All manuscript citations, unless otherwise noted, are from the Clinton Papers.

“A Spot of Brightness”

ISADORE G. MUDGE

EDITOR'S NOTE: *In November, 1952, there appeared in this magazine an article by Austin P. Evans about the late Miss Isadore Mudge, much beloved Reference Librarian of Columbia from 1911 to 1941. In his article Professor Evans quoted from a typewritten Memoir by Miss Mudge entitled: "Development of the Reference Department of the Columbia University Libraries." The title has a somewhat dry sound, but several of the quoted anecdotes were very lively, and a re-reading of the Memoir has brought to light several additional episodes which are worth passing on. Miss Mudge, in a chapter entitled "In Lighter Vein," refers to these incidents as ones which brought a "spot of brightness" into the routine of the Library's Reference Department. In fact, the brightness owes as much to the entertaining circumstances themselves as to the sense of humor of the narrator, who, at her desk under the dome of Low Memorial Library, received with tolerant amusement many odd questions. According to the legend, Miss Mudge was never stumped by a question; also, one gathers that never did her sense of humor desert her—even when confronted by such matters as rat-catching in the Library, the necessity of reading the twelve volumes of Burke's Works to verify a single quotation for Nicholas Murray Butler, and the alarming episode of the lady with the "hair-trigger stomach."*

"I Desires to View the Remains"

SEVERAL good stories owe their existence to the fact that the old library has a dome. One day when I was on duty at the desk a dignified and portly colored woman came to the Reading Room and asked where she could find the vault. Readers who know that the rarest and most valuable books are kept in the vault would frequently ask their way to it, but still she did not seem to me quite to belong to that type. However, I sent her to Mr. F.A.¹ who kept the keys to the vault and was very

¹ The initials of persons who are referred to in this article have been changed by the Editor.

jealous of his prerogative in the matter, thinking that he had better deal with her. To his inquiry as to why she wanted to see the vault she said with much dignity, "I desires to view the remains," a remark which made Mr. A. teeter on his toes even more nervously than usual as he asked excitedly what remains she expected to find in the university library, and she said, "The remains of the great General Grant. I was told that they would be under the dome." She, when properly instructed, went calmly on her way to find the *right* dome, but an expressman who later tried to deliver to me a package addressed to a strange name was much ruffled by my refusal to accept it. "Sure, lady," he said, "It must be for you. I was told to give it straight to the lady who runs the reading room under the big dome and here's the dome." A little checking up of names proved that he should have delivered the package to the library building at New York University, and he departed in much disgust, expressing his opinion of the bad management that put two domed libraries in the same city and saying that the other lady would certainly have to wait until the next day since I would not take in her package!

The Sultan's Skull

When the first text of the Versailles Treaty was cabled to this country in 1919, there appeared a clause [article 246] requiring that the German Government return to the British Government the skull of the Sultan Qwawa.² Such an unusual term in a peace treaty drove the reporters crazy for a few days and they bombarded the National Geographic Society, the Library of Congress, and the large libraries of New York City, as well as certain specialists who might be supposed to know about the Sultan and his skull. One of the specialists consulted was Doctor Richard Gottheil, then professor of Oriental History and Literature at Columbia. Professor Gottheil brought the question to the Reference Depart-

² The name was variously spelled "Qwawa," "Okwawa," and "Mkwawa" (the one that finally became the accepted version).

ment and asked if we could find the answer, as he had to give an interview on the subject to one of the New York papers. After some searching, we found from German bibliographies and other publications available in this library a satisfactory account of the Sultan "Qwawa" or "Okwawa," as his name appeared in these places, and I gave the information to Doctor Gottheil.³ Several times in successive years, after World War I had partially receded into the background, solemn questions were raised in Parliament by members who asked whether the Sultan's skull had yet been returned to His Majesty's Government, and such inquiries in Parliament came at just the right time to add emphasis to the question about the Sultan's skull included in problems which I gave to the students in "Advanced Reference and Bibliographic Method."

A Terrible Mistake

An experience of a totally different sort was due to the privilege taken by undergraduates everywhere of poking fun at their instructors or others in authority over them. In the exercising of this privilege many years ago, the editors of the *Columbia Jester* were inspired to publish in one number a page of so-called portraits of various members of the faculty or administration. Each "portrait" had under it a sentence supposed to have been uttered by the original. Most of the pictures included were those of men teachers or administrators in Columbia College, but there was one sketch of

³ When the Germans attempted to assert control over Tanganyika in East Africa in the period 1885-1890, they ran into serious resistance in some areas, including the one controlled by the Hehe tribe which was led by Sultan or Chief Mkwawa. When the latter was finally surrounded by the Germans, he committed suicide. His head, on which a ransom had been set, was severed from the body—and disappeared. It was not until 1954 that the intermittent exchange of diplomatic notes about this matter came to an end when a skull of suitable type and dimensions was found in the Museum of Ethnology in Bremen, Germany, and was turned over to the British Government. Sir Edward Twining, the British Governor of Tanganyika, presented it to Mkwawa's grandson, the Chief of the Hehe, while 30,000 tribesmen jubilated. The skull has been enshrined by the tribe.

a woman's head which was labeled, "And Miss Mudge says, 'See my fine new necklace.'" If this label had any applicability, it was of an Alice in Wonderland kind since Miss Mudge considers a necklace during working hours as something that is simply in the way, but I was amused by the sketch and took it as an evidence, at least, that the students knew of my existence and, of course, I was not



This photograph of Isadore Gilbert Mudge was taken on April 17, 1896, while she was a member of the junior class in Cornell University.

offended by the fact that the undergraduates were poking fun at the authorities. It never occurred to me to take any other view of the case until first Mr. F.A. and then Mr. R.A. made special trips to my desk to tell me what a horrible insult it was, and that it was my duty to complain to the President of the University—a suggestion which I merely laughed at. They, however, appeared very insistent and repeated their suggestions so often that I began to wonder if they could possibly think that it was not really Miss

Mudge for whom the picture was intended, but instead their sister, Miss A.A., who presided at the Loan Desk in very dressy attire. However, I put it out of my mind until one day a student stopped at my desk to ask for some reference help. As his question needed a little time for looking up and he was in a hurry, I told him to come back later, and, in case he did not see me at my desk, to ask for Miss Mudge. The result of that simple statement was the deepest and most instantaneous blush that I have ever seen. He was literally almost as red as a beet from his collar to his scalp. "Is Miss Mudge your name?" he asked me and when I replied simply that it was, he said with great emphasis, "Oh Lord, then I've made a terrible mistake," and fled from the Reference Desk. He never came back for his reference work and I felt sure that the artist of the portrait had stood at my desk that morning.

Rats and Cats

The position of the old reading room was such that it was particularly subject to invasion by unwanted animals. Cats flocked in at all hours of the day. In the division of departmental duties the page was supposed to be the cat remover, but as he was sensitive to the student applause which greeted such efforts, especially when they were not immediately successful, it usually fell to the lot of the Reference Librarian to grab and remove the invader. During the year 1914-1915 we had a long continued invasion by rats, who were evidently Teutonic as they ate only French and British statistical annuals. Appeals to "Buildings and Grounds" produced no effect for some time, until one day a pessimistic assistant from that department appeared with several rattraps so ancient as to qualify for the Americana class, and a message to the effect, "Here's your traps, but the Superintendent says you can provide your own bait." I do not remember what we used, but the Teuton hordes were eventually turned back. Sometimes the animals came in under cover, as when a woman politely asked me to hold a bag while she

looked up a word in the Oxford Dictionary. The bag looked perfectly harmless, but after she gave it to me she said, "There's a live cat in there, so don't let it out of the bag." It was an ordinary bag, too, with a draw-string top, and the cat was not accepting the situation philosophically.

Found! (in the Eleventh Volume)

A most frequent and most stimulating asker of questions for many years was President Nicholas Murray Butler, who, in the course of the enormous amount of speaking and writing which he did, on many occasions felt it necessary to verify or check some passage or reference. For thirty years it was an invariable rule in the Reference Department that any quotation question asked by the President *must* be answered no matter what time was taken or what methods had to be followed. An inquiry about a quotation from some speech or work of Edmund Burke called for the use of a technic which fortunately does not have to be resorted to too often and which for obvious reasons could not be used for anyone less important than the President of the University. Dr. Butler had the quotation, in what, as far as one could judge merely from the surface, appeared to be a correct form, but his well-known attitude towards exactness of quotation meant that the Reference Department must check it word for word. Unfortunately, no set of Burke's works has an index nor is there any separate dictionary or index to him as a writer or statesman, and his writings were voluminous. The only possible approach, if this question was to be answered on our own standard of service, was to read Burke from beginning to end, and a twelve volume set of his works, which seemed to be complete, was selected. As there were then four members of the Reference Department, this divided evenly into three volumes each—and the Reference Department undertook to read Burke. The quotation was located in the eleventh

volume of the twelve volume set, and, when found, proved to be exactly as the President had given it, even to punctuation.

The Hair-trigger Stomach

The "lady in brown" was long a minor problem. She was a Mrs. T., said to be a connection by marriage of Dr. L. T., a tall, thin, middle-aged woman who floated in and out of the building always clad in thin fluttering garments of brown and gold or yellow, because, as she explained, gold was the color of life. She had many fads and harmless eccentricities which usually bothered no one, though once students asked the Reference Librarian to intervene when the lady in brown, as a new health fad, took to a diet of garlic so excessive that it annoyed readers sitting near her. She was something of a problem to one of our pages, a quiet, conscientious youth who had strong ideas as to reference room conventionalities. When he came to my desk one day with the whispered question: "Miss Mudge, have we any rule which says that a lady should not take off her shoes and put them in the aisle?" I realized that the problem was one for the head of the department, not for a page. To my attempted remarks she opposed a bland but firm statement that she advised me to be careful what I said to her, as she had a "hair-trigger stomach" that was likely to go into action at any minute. As the "hair-trigger" seemed more of a menace to reading room order than the shoes in the aisle, I compromised by offering her the page as a safe escort home, a duty that he carried out courteously—but with a marked air of apprehension!

Capturing the Passing Show: Columbia's Resources for Theatrical Research

HENRY W. WELLS

“SHADOWS of the passing world,” is the familiar translation of the Japanese word “Ukiyoe,” signifying the Japanese printed pictures, a vast number of which document the theatrical arts of Japan. There is a special fitness in this word in reference to the theatre, for the theatrical arts are themselves among the most elusive as well as the most splendid of human achievements; only by strong and ingenious efforts can the passing show be captured and an adequate record of it attained. Theatres accumulate an enormous amount of ephemeral printing and physical contraptions, as witness posters and stage-sets. Libraries are faced with a unique task in preserving some of the products of this ever-flowing river of accomplishment and in organizing them for use. By many devices, considerable progress has recently been made. Various ambitious projects between collections are afoot to list materials on an international scale, to photostat important items, to film productions and record their sound-tracks. These are new means to serve old functions. (There is a popular story that the great actor, Richard Burbage, when the Globe Theatre, of London, was afire and doomed to instant destruction, rushed from its stage-door with manuscripts of Shakespeare’s plays under his arm. In a peculiarly dramatic sense this supplies an analogy for the services of any library in behalf of the living theatre or the drama as a presentational art.)

The Columbia Libraries have an extensive and well-balanced program covering this exceptionally diversified and difficult area.

Fresh attention to these activities is called by the recent accession of two collections. The Randolph Somerville Collection consists of some 1,600 volumes together with water-colors, many theatrical prints, programs, prompt-books, and an exceptionally interesting gathering of Professor Somerville's notes documenting the history and theory of the stage. Of the Columbia College class of 1914, he was for many years Director of the Washington Square Players and professor of drama at New York University.

He wrote little for publication but thought deeply on dramatic art, collecting much of value about it. The Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum (412 Low Memorial Library) will present an exhibition of his collection, opening with a meeting in recognition of the gift on the eve of Shakespeare's birthday, April 22, and extending through May 13. The Museum is open week-days from 2 to 6 p.m.

Few men whose names are so little known through publication have accomplished so much in behalf of the educational theatre. To a peculiar degree the gift lends itself to an exhibition of the labors of a fruitful lifetime. The collection contains over a hundred prompt-copies, the great majority of which are for Shakespeare's plays, though Molière, Sheridan, and Shaw, and other dramatists are included. There are prompt-copies for twenty-eight of Shakespeare's works, fifteen of which are represented in productions directed by Somerville himself. Productions for over two hundred years are presented, with versions by leading actors and producers, such as Mary Anderson, Margaret Anglin, Granville Barker, David Belasco, Edwin Booth, Arthur Bouchier, Augustin Daly, Edwin Forrest, David Garrick, Henry Irving, Charles Kean, J. B. Kemble, William Macready, Richard Mansfield, Tommaso Salvini, Herbert Beerbohm Tree, and James Wallack. His dramatic library is exceptionally well selected, with at least a few volumes from the earlier periods of the English stage. Worthy of mention as supplementary to the theatre is a fine copy of M. A. Racinet's monumental *Le Costume Historique*. There are many



(Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum)

Randolph Somerville (A.B., 1914) with actors, directing a summer production at the Duke's Oak Theatre in Cooperstown, New York.

autographs from leading figures contemporary with Somerville, such as Arthur Wing Pinero and Eugene O'Neill, and an exceptionally good collection of theatrical photographs.

In addition to his leadership of the Washington Square Players, he directed some successful summer theatre, notably at the Duke's Oak Theatre, Cooperstown, New York, where a large and impressive group of plays was given. The collection contains ample record of all this work and, to sum the matter up, gives a full-length portrait of an indefatigable leader devoted to the theatre in general and to Shakespeare in particular. And all this activity for the stage apparently commenced with his work in the dramatic society at Columbia College.

The library of the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum, naturally many times larger and more valuable than the Somerville Collection itself, has within the last few months been moved to Butler Library from its rooms in Philosophy Hall. After being for nearly forty years under the jurisdiction of the Department of English and Comparative Literature, it is now in the care and possession of the Libraries, to its material advantage in respect to cataloguing and preservation. All bound material has been transferred, while loose plates, photographs, drawings, and similar exhibition material remain in custody of the Dramatic Museum. By means of this transfer many rare and richly illustrated books have been made available to readers in Butler Library or, in a few instances, in the Avery Architecture Library. Of the major part of these books which are now shelved in the main Library, some are in the Department of Special Collections; however, it is expected that eventually about half of the total number will be moved to the reading-room of the School of Drama which is projected for the University's forthcoming Arts Center.

Not many years ago a teacher in the theatrical arts prepared a class reading-list which the Library surveyed in relation to its own multiple divisions. It was found that the books were dispersed through over a score of branches in the Library system. The sur-

vey itself indicated a movement toward consolidation of information if not actually toward bringing the separate items physically together. The basic situation still remains and probably always will, if for no other reason than that the theatre is clearly the most eclectic of all the arts. A fresh statement of the problems and of such solutions as have been attained seems appropriate.

The problems themselves derive from the fact that the successful production of plays requires an extraordinary breadth of knowledge divided among several groups of people. Actors, dramatists, directors, stage designers, costume designers, composers, choreographers, etc., need access upon occasion to the range of dramatic literature as well as to publications pertaining to their areas of specialization. Prompt-books of the living stage naturally have an important place in theatrical collections. It might be observed, too, that when a book has been published, the creative activity associated with it may be said to have been completed, but a published play-script is a basis for the intense creativity which will take place when it is transmuted to a stage production. Over a span of time, the stage history of a single drama, as we can most strikingly see in Greek and Latin literatures, may reflect cultural changes through many centuries.

That our Library is not itself deflected by pronounced specializations in these fields is, perhaps, in the over-all picture a gain. Its theatrical collections may be construed as resembling the mind of Columbia's first and most illustrious theatrical scholar, Brander Matthews, in being comprehensive rather than biased. To mention first a few fields in which our holdings are especially strong might be to accent some outlying fields of drama, at least as these appear from the view of literary history. Our East Asiatic Library has much to illustrate the spectacular Japanese theatre, and, though the volumes have been all too little used of late, we have a creditable collection of the great Sanskrit stage. Our Music Library contains valuable items related to the operatic stage, including several eighteenth-century editions of printed works and manu-

scripts of outstanding recent American music dramas. Among theatrical specialties for those with exotic palates are creditable groups of books on miming, puppetry, and festivals, and on a subject peculiarly dear to Brander Matthews, magic.



This title page is from the Music Library's copy of the first edition of the full score of *Don Giovanni*, published in Leipzig in 1801.

The Woodman Thompson Collection recently augmented the already considerable cluster of books on costume, most of them to be found under the category of decorative arts in the collections in Avery Library, where are also especially interesting works on theatre architecture. Although it must be conceded that little work in theatrical technique can be expected at Columbia during the interval between the recent demolition of the Brander Matthews

Hall and the establishment of the Arts Center to which the University looks forward, the collections thus far assembled of works specifically on the mechanics of the theatre form a substantial body of material and, of course, will be consistently maintained. This includes books on lighting, acoustics, stage machinery, and allied topics.

That dramatic literature must always be the chief documentation of the theatre goes without saying and our shelves are fortunate in having a few rare drama books of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries for the chief European literatures. A volume of the "autos," or religious dramas, of Calderón de la Barca might be mentioned. There are copies of all the chief early drama folios in English and a fair number of the play-quartos. Works on the *commedia dell' arte* are particularly fascinating. There is a creditable collection of eighteenth-century English plays and of the nineteenth-century plays published in pamphlet form, chiefly the melodramas and farces constituting the theatrical ephemera of that period. Available for research is a collection in microprint form of over 5,000 plays, English and American, from the early years of printing to approximately 1800. The vigorous research recently conducted in Germany and Austria is well represented. Among individual playwrights, the more amply displayed, owing in part to the special devotion of Brander Matthews, are Molière and Sheridan. There is a considerable collection of theatrical periodicals, many of which are richly illustrated.

The Library has, in addition, accumulated a more than fair collection of works on the film and the mechanized theatrical arts or, as the University nomenclature rather ominously calls them, "the arts of mass communication." In addition to the highly miscellaneous works already described should, perhaps, be mentioned the fairly large number of playbills, photographs and other prints, and such items as slides and tape and phonograph recordings, although the latter remain in the Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum. A working library for drama students in the under-

graduate field is maintained in Barnard College with the aid of a special fund. It is exemplary.

The complex problems facing any library which collects materials for theatre study have been the subject of a course given in the summer at our School of Library Service by one of the outstanding leaders in this perplexing field, George Freedley, who is the director and guiding spirit in the vast and carefully arranged Theatre Collection at the New York Public Library. So we have good neighbors in this aspect of library activity, with the result that the student of dramatic literature or of the theatrical arts who uses the joint resources of the New York Public Library and of the Columbia Libraries has an enviable opportunity for work in most of the fields to which he is likely to turn.

What Attracts Classical Scholars to a University?

MOSES HADAS

A GENERATION or two ago the word "scholarship" was understood to apply exclusively to the study of the classics of Greece and Rome. Applied to other disciplines, as it is in current usage, the word was originally a metaphor, and to bookish people it still rings strange when applied to non-bookish subjects. The student of the ancients, like his colleagues in the more modern humanities, is wholly dependent upon books, and it is in the nature of his materials and interests that these books should be both discursive and numerous. They are bound to be more numerous in classical than in any vernacular literature because the classics have been scholarship's central concern from antiquity onwards and for centuries without serious rivals, and because classical scholarship is practised in all civilized countries alike, whereas study of vernacular literature is largely centered in the countries of their origin. A student of English or American literature should have some awareness of the work of continental scholars in his field, but a student of the Greek and Latin classics would remain ignorant of the larger segment of the work in his field if he were cut off from the production of continental scholarship.

Limited in time and place as is the classical scholar's preserve, within that preserve there are numerous and diverse areas, and concern in them varies in volume and intensity as new materials or new theories are made available or taste veers. There is place for linguistic and for literary scholarship, for cultural history in manifold aspects, for epigraphy and papyrology and palaeography. Preoccupations with "classic" periods give way to interest in what preceded and followed, with "classic" authors to those heretofore less esteemed, with grammar and textual criticism to a deeper con-

cern with content, exploiting advances made in other disciplines.

Actually, then, the requirements of the classicists in books are relatively larger than are those of humanists in other areas, and because classicists are relatively few in number these requirements are something of an extravagance which only our larger libraries can afford. Men of scholarly bent can find their library needs adequately provided for in many places in a number of fields, but in relatively few if their interest is in classics. In choosing a place to teach and study, the availability of adequate library facilities is an important factor. In view of the high costs of specialized study to institutions and students alike, it seems poor economy indeed to prevent persons who have received training from making full use of it and even poorer economy for persons undergoing such training not to be provided fully with the appliances necessary to their work.

The library materials required for advanced study in the classics fall into three categories. Most essential is the standard "working library"—up-to-date reference works and texts and the continuing results of research and analysis in books and periodicals in many languages. Here Columbia's record is satisfactory; our holdings are kept abreast of the times and items of significance which may have been overlooked in the past are frequently added. As much, it must be remarked, may be said of any of a dozen other institutions. Next in importance are original materials of ancient origin. Here Columbia may boast of a collection of 600-700 papyri, which is one of the largest in the country, of a smaller collection of original inscribed stones, and squeezes of others which constitute a laboratory for work in epigraphy, and of a collection of Roman coins of the Republican and Empire periods. In the third category are early editions which mark epochs in the history of scholarship. Here again Columbia's holdings are interesting and valuable.

Of medieval and renaissance manuscripts of classical texts and studies, Columbia owns more than seventy exemplars.* Most of

* The specific comments about holdings in this and in the following three paragraphs have been supplied by Roland Baughman.

these (47) are in the Plimpton collection, a star piece being a late 15th-century manuscript of the Iliad and Odyssey in Greek, written by the Venetian scribe, Damiano Guidotto: it is the only listing of a Homer manuscript in Greek in De Ricci's 1935-7 census of early manuscripts in America. The Gonzalez Lodge collection of classical manuscripts is small (14), but it is growing steadily, especially in the field of vernacular translations; there is here, as an example, an unpublished mid-15th-century Spanish version of *Facta et dicta memorabilia* by Valerius Maximus.

Of early printed editions of classical texts, the Plimpton, Lodge, and other Columbia collections contain a notable representation, including upwards of 225 15th-century editions and even more voluminous holdings for the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. Among these are many significant renaissance redactions, such as the first printed Homer in Greek (1488-9); various important Aldine editions in Greek, including the Aristotle (1495-8), the Aristophanes (1498), the *Thesaurus cornucopiae* (1496), the *Epistolae diversorum philosophorum* (1499), and the Euripides (1503); the Spencer copy of Sophocles in Greek (Paris, 1552-3); the Giunta Plutarch and Aristides in Greek (1517); ten 15th-century editions of Juvenal's works, eight of Livy, seven of Plautus, etc.; and many vernacular translations such as North's Plutarch (1579), Livy's *Decades* in Spanish (1497), Caesar's *Commentaries* in Spanish (1498) and in Golding's English (1565), German translations of Ovid (1581) and Plutarch (1547), and many others.

The Lodge Endowment is the principal support of Columbia's current acquisitions program for classical works and studies of early date, manuscript and printed alike. The late Dr. Gonzalez Lodge was professor of Latin and Greek at Teachers College. In 1944, shortly after his death, the portion of his private library that is devoted to early classical editions was presented to Columbia University in his memory by his widow, the late Ida Stanwood Lodge. Mrs. Lodge also made provision for an endowment of about \$100,000 to maintain and develop the collection. This was established in 1948.

The original Lodge Collection consisted of some 1800 volumes, mainly 15th–18th century redactions of classical texts. In the decade that has passed since the endowment became available, more than 800 printed editions have been added, principally of dates earlier than 1700. Not only have significant texts in the original languages been sought; as indicated above, there has also been a considered attempt to secure important vernacular translations.

But good as Columbia's resources in the classics are, they can and should be improved. Maintaining the first category at its highest usefulness requires constant vigilance and generous expenditure of library funds. This is a matter of sheer necessity, for without a good working library we could neither function ourselves nor attract serious students. In regard to the "working library," it is not possible or desirable to surpass sister institutions of comparable standing. For distinction based on uniqueness of holdings, the second and third categories must be fostered. These too should be enriched, but increments should properly come from special gifts by benefactors interested in such collections.

Our Growing Collections

ROLAND BAUGHMAN

Adams gift. Through the great kindness of Mr. Lewis G. Adams a rare work by William Pain, *The Practical House Carpenter; or, Youth's Instructor*, Philadelphia, Thomas Dobson, 1797 (one of the thirteen architectural books published in this country prior to the year 1800), has been added to the Avery Library.

Alexanderson gift. Mrs. Elizabeth Alexanderson of Neshanic Station, New Jersey, has presented to the Columbiana Collection a letter from Henry Augustus Whiting (A.B., 1866; A.M., 1869; E.M., 1871) to the Hon. Abram Wakeman, 22 June 1866, enclosing his card and a card of admission to the Commencement exercises of June 27, 1866.

Aschemeier gift. Mr. John Aschemeier of New York City has presented a beautiful copy of Tennyson's *Idyls of the King*, Boston, 1866, which bears the following inscription: "Mr. Condit, With the love and best wishes of his old Sunday-School scholar, Seth Low. Apr. 7, 1869."

Barrett gift. Mr. C. Waller Barrett has sent for inclusion in Special Collections an early paper-back novel with an American background. It is *The Gipsey Chief*, Boston, 1845, written by the British novelist, George William MacArthur Reynolds.

Benjamin gifts. Mr. Henry Rogers Benjamin has presented a full run of the delightful French books so far published in his series of "Les Productions de Paris." The gift numbers 56 titles in 61 volumes.

Berg gift. Aaron W. Berg (Class of 1924) has added to the Columbian Collection his files pertaining to the Alumni Association, representing his years as President of the Association, 1956-1959. The gift includes Standing Committee Reports, correspondence, and minutes.

Blau gifts. Professor Joseph L. Blau (A.B., 1931; A.M., 1933; Ph.D., 1944) and Mrs. Blau have presented a number of interesting and useful items, comprising the following:

1. *Lettera di Fra Guidone Zoccolante . . .* 1751.
2. *A Letter from the Hon. Timothy Pickering . . . to His Excellency James Sullivan . . .* Boston, 1808.
3. *American entomology . . . by Thomas Say . . .* Philadelphia, 1828.
4. *Interesting correspondence between His Excellency Governor Sullivan and Col. Pickering . . .* Boston, 1808.
5. A.L.S., Martin Buber to Joseph L. Blau, 1 p., Jerusalem, 15 March 1949.
6. T.L.S., Wm. E. Hocking to H. Lillibridge, 1 p., Yale U., 19 Jan. 1912.

Bonsall gift. Mrs. Victor Bonsall of West Nyack, New York, has presented a fine Latin Bible published at Hanover, Germany, in 1624.

Breitenbach gift. Mr. Harry P. Breitenbach of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, has presented photocopies of nearly two dozen letters received by him from the noted author, Walter B. Pitkin, covering the period 1898-1952. These photostat copies were reproduced from originals in the Detroit Public Library's Burton Historical Collection.

Colby gift. Colonel Elbridge Colby (A.B., 1912, A.M., 1913, Ph.D., 1922) has presented two diplomas and ten fine engineering

drawings by his father, the late Professor Charles Edwards Colby (E.M., 1877, C.E., 1877). Professor Colby had been assistant to Professor Chandler and later adjunct Professor of Organic Chemistry. He obtained a wide reputation both here and abroad for his instructional prowess and his research. The materials presented are welcomed into the Columbiana Collection.

Freeman-Perkins gift. Mrs. Edward W. Freeman, on behalf of herself and of her brother, the late George W. Perkins, Jr. (A.M., 1921 T.C.), has placed at Columbia the papers of her father, George Walbridge Perkins (1862-1920). The purpose of the gift is to make this important material available to scholars. The collection, which comprises correspondence, official papers, financial records, memoranda, and public speeches, gives a remarkably informed insight into the history of life insurance, banking, industrial development, and politics in the period of Mr. Perkins' activity. The papers will prove of inestimable value to generations of scholars in the fields of political and economic history; they have already served well as the materials supporting the biography of George W. Perkins which is being published by Columbia's Professor John A. Garraty.

Friedman gifts. Mr. Harry G. Friedman (Ph.D., 1908) has presented a number of very fine and valuable items, including eleven printed books, a manuscript, and an original portrait in oils.

1. *Antidotum contra diversas omnium fere seculorum haereses* . . . Basle, 1528. In the original stamped calf binding, signed by Nicholas Spierinck.
2. *Braebes et Aristotelis logicam institutiones* . . . MS., written 1735.
3. Carlyle, Thomas. Framed oil portrait, unsigned.
4. Cassiodorus, Magnus Aurelius. *Historia ecclesiastica tripartita*. Paris, for François Regnault [ca. 1500]. Stillwell C-219.
5. Defoe, Daniel. *Reasons why a certain great G—L has not yet*

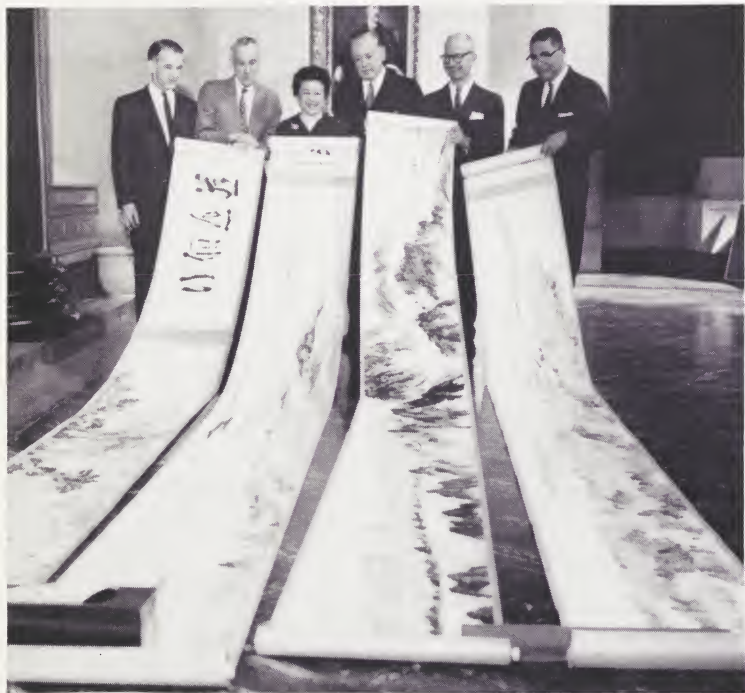
- receiv'd the thanks of either of the two Houses of Parliament* . . . [np] 1710.
6. Giovanni di Barros. *L'Asia* . . . Venice, 1562. Translated from the Portuguese by Alphonse Ulloa. Two volumes bound as one.
 7. Hetteema, Montanus. *Narichten betreffende de ontdekking van Amerika in de tiende eeuw. Naar het deensche van Carel Cristiaan Rafn* . . . Leeuwarden, 1838.
 8. *Manifest, ende redenen van Oorloge, tot Lisbona* . . . [np] 1658.
 9. Plinius Secundus, Caius. *Historia mundi naturalis* . . . Frankfurt, 1582.
 10. Roumania. Constitution, 1923. *Constitutiunea*. [np, nd; ca. 1923] With signatures of various generals and others. Bound with a number of other, probably related, documents.
 11. Severus, Sulpitius. *Opera omnia* . . . Leyden, Franciscus Hackius, 1647.
 12. Smart, Christopher. *A poetical translation of the fables of Phaedrus* . . . London, 1765.
 13. Trajan Column. A volume containing a large number of 16th century engravings showing the details of the Column.

Fukuda gift. In the very first issue of *Library Columns*, Fall, 1951, mention was made of the commencement of the project by the noted Japanese artist, Bisen Fukuda, to prepare and present to the East Asiatic Library of Columbia a full set of thirty paintings entitled "Scrolls of the China Scene." On March 2, 1960, the last of the series was formally presented on behalf of the artist by the New York Japanese Consul General, Mitsuo Tanaka. President Kirk accepted the unusual and beautiful gift for the University.

Twice before Mr. Fukuda had painted these scenes, and each time his work was destroyed—the first set by earthquake and fire in 1923, and the second by World War II bombings. This third set was painted especially for Columbia University when the ar-

tist learned of the admiration for his work expressed by Dwight D. Eisenhower, then President of Columbia University.

The artist, born in 1875, received his training at the Imperial



SCROLL PRESENTATION. Shown here are four of the twenty scrolls painted by Bisen Fukuda which were presented on March 2, 1960. The group shown is as follows: Howard P. Linton, Librarian of the East Asiatic Library; C. Martin Wilbur, Director of the East Asian Institute; Miwa Kai, Assistant Librarian of the East Asiatic Library; President Grayson Kirk; Charles W. Mixer, Assistant Director of Libraries; and Mitsuo Tanaka, New York Consul General of Japan.

School of Art in Tokyo and has won imperial recognition of his works, some of which are preserved in historic temples in Kyoto. The subjects of the scrolls, mainly scenes along the Yangtze, were sketched during his travels through China during the period 1909-1912.

The thirty scrolls, each forty feet long and each in a box of paulownia wood within a lacquer case, have become part of the East Asiatic Library.

Ginsburg gift. In the November, 1958, issue of *Library Columns* mention was made of the generous gift of Mrs. Jekuthiel Ginsburg of a substantial collection of manuscripts and memorabilia of David Eugene Smith, late Professor of Mathematics at Teachers College. Professor Smith and the late Dr. Jekuthiel Ginsburg (A.M., 1918, T.C.) had been close friends, frequently corresponding and sending each other articles and lectures for editorial comment. Recently Mrs. Ginsburg discovered another trove of Smith manuscripts and portraits, and she has added these to her earlier gift.

Hazeltine bequest. The late Professor Alice I. Hazeltine bequeathed her professional library relating to children's literature to Columbia University. The collection comprised 700 items, mainly bound volumes, of which a substantial number now enhance the files of the School of Library Service Library.

Henderson gifts. Professor and Mrs. Harold G. Henderson (A.B., 1925, B.) have presented three letters to the Libraries. One of these is from John L. Lawrence (30 Sept. 1834) to the Trustees of Columbia College giving the Treasurer's report of accounts current. There is also an undated holograph letter signed by Park Benjamin to "Dear B." Finally there is a long letter from Park Benjamin (Sea captain and trader who was lost at sea and was the father of Park Benjamin, the poet and publisher) to Jonas Welsh, 28 August 1813, 3 p.

Hitchcock gift. Mr. Henry-Russell Hitchcock, the noted architectural author and critic, has presented to Avery Library an im-

portant 1916 Frank Lloyd Wright drawing for the Ernest Vossburgh House on Crescent Road, Grand Beach, Michigan.

Hobart gift. Alice Tisdale Hobart (Mrs. Earle T. Hobart) has presented the manuscript and proofs of her latest book, *Gusty's Child*.

Hu Shih gift. Dr. Hu Shih (Ph.D., 1917), eminent authority on Chinese philosophy, literature, and history, has presented to the East Asiatic Library the 24-volume set of his collected works recently reprinted in Taiwan. Dr. Hu, former Ambassador to the United States and now President of the Academia Sinica in Taipei, holds more than thirty honorary degrees from American and European Universities.

Israeli Defense Forces gift. At a ceremony in Low Library, President Grayson Kirk accepted on behalf of the University a collection of eighty works in the Hebrew language—the gift of the Israeli Defense Forces.

Joffe gifts. Dr. Judah A. Joffe (1893, A.B.) has presented a number of interesting items to the Libraries, including a book of Psalms printed in Haarlem by Johannes Enschede, 1776; *King Albert's Book*, London, 1914, with an illustration by Arthur Rackham; *Chateaux of France*, published by the Ministère des Travaux Publics, 1948; and *Treasures of Yosemite National Park*, a brochure of colored photographs, undated. Of very special note, however, is a signed letter in the autograph of James Huneker, to Gustav Kobbé, 17 January 1901, in which the famous author gives a biographical outline of his career. It is a delightful piece, deserving of publication in full.

Lada-Mocarski gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Valerien Lada-Mocarski have added to their numerous previous gifts to Avery Library four

richly-illustrated publications dealing with historical matters in the field of architecture and art history: Mario Salmi, *La Miniatura Italiana*, 1956; Aldo Patocchi, *Monumenti Storici del Ticino*, 1958; Reynaldo Dos Santos, *Nuno Concalves*, 1955; and *Il Palazzo Te*, 1957.

Longwell gifts. Mr. Daniel Longwell (1922 C) has forwarded two welcome additions to his remarkable collection of the writings by and about Sir Winston S. Churchill. One of these is Sir Anthony Eden's volume *Full Circle*, just published by Cassell in London. The other item is a large collection—which Mr. Longwell believes to be incomplete—of cartoons of Sir Winston clipped from *Punch* for the period 1900-1946.

Nevins gift. Professor-Emeritus Allan Nevins has added to his earlier gifts the manuscripts of his *War for the Union: The Improved War 1861-62* and of his *Ford: Expansion and Challenge*. By Professor Nevins' arrangement, these manuscripts were forwarded to Special Collections directly from the publisher.

Plimpton gifts. Mr. Francis T. P. Plimpton has made further significant additions to the Plimpton Library established at Columbia by his father, the late George A. Plimpton. Included in the present gift are four useful works: William Thornton's *Cadmus: or, a treatise on the elements of written language*, Philadelphia, 1793; W. Hunt's translation of Livy's *Roman History*, London, 1686; Newton's *Universal Arithmetic*, London, 1769 (translated by Ralphson, revised by Cunn); and Samuel Smith's *Aditus ad logicam*, Oxford, 1649.

Pratt gifts. Dr. Dallas Pratt (1941, M.D.) has made two fine additions to the Columbia Libraries. One of these is the Venice, 1511, edition of Ptolemy's *Geographia*; the other is Roscoe Pound's

Jurisprudence, 1959, in five volumes, presented to the Law Library in memory of Alfred Ely.

Stokes gift. Dr. J. G. Phelps Stokes (1896, M.D.) has presented two extraordinary cuneiform tablets for addition to the Columbia collection of these important documents, both in remarkably fine condition. The earlier of the tablets is a cone bearing 20 lines of script, written in the time of Libit-Ishtar, King of Babylonia in 2060 B.C. The inscription includes the names of several cities mentioned in Genesis. The other tablet is a cylinder bearing an edict by Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon from 605 to 562 B.C., regarding the rebuilding of the temple of Shamash, the sun-god, in Larsa.

Weeks gifts. Miss Mabel Weeks has presented five very desirable classical works in early editions. The earliest is *Facta et dicta* of Valerius Maximus, printed at Venice by Bonetus Locatellus in 1493. Other works in the gift are: Seneca's *Tragoediae*, Venice, 1505; Plutarch's *Vitae*, Paris, Jodocus Badius, 1514; Cicero's *Opera*, Venice, Giunta, 1534-37 (4 vols.); and Pausanias *Historicus*, Attica descriptis, Leipzig, 1696.

Wood gift. Mr. Roy U. Wood (1914, Met. E.) of Scottsdale, Arizona, has added an important item to his gift which was discussed in the February, 1960, issue of *Library Columns*. It is the very scarce printing of William Faulkner's poem *This Earth*, published with drawings by Albert Heckman, New York, Equinox, 1932.

Young gift. Mrs. Agatha Young has presented the corrected typescripts and galley-proofs of her newly published book, *Women of the Civil War*. This makes a notable addition to the increasing collection of the manuscripts of contemporary authors which is being assembled at Columbia.

The Typography of the *Columns*

IT WAS announced in our last issue that *Columbia Library Columns* had won an Award of Special Merit from the New York Employing Printers Association. Since this is the second time the *Columns* has been honored for its typography by the Printers Association, it may be of interest to record briefly, before the facts grow dim in the minds of those who were close to its beginnings, the story of how we arrived at the present format of the *Columns*.

The name of the journal was borrowed from a defunct Library staff magazine, "Library Columns," which had flourished for two years in the nineteen thirties. Inspired by the name, Ashley Martella, of New York City, designed a distinguished cover which we clothed in Quaker gray and still find attractive. Mr. Martella also made the cuts of Butler and Low Libraries which have become the familiar guardians of our first page of text.

Typographically, the text of our first issue, set in Linotype Janson, faltered a bit after the high promise of the cover. There were consultations with the Manager of the Printing Office of the Columbia University Press, Melvin Loos. Mr. Loos suggested a slightly larger, hand Janson for the titles, and a Caslon Open initial for the first letter of the articles. At one bound, as our next issue demonstrated, the *Columns* achieved the typographic quality which it has maintained for a decade. Mr. Loos, who thus conceived the design which you see before you, and who was specifically responsible for the November 1958 and February 1959 issues which were honored by the Printers Association, has earned the thanks of all whose eyes are refreshed by these comely pages. His collaborators who share the honors are the following presses—listed with the dates they handled the *Columns*: George Grady Press (September 1951–February 1957), Clarke and Way (March

1957 to February 1958), and the Harbor Press (March 1958 to date).

Starting last year, typographical supervision of Columbia publications, including the *Columns*, was placed under the University's Printing Services, and Miss Patrice LaLiberté, beginning with the May 1959 issue, now acts in the role of our mentor.

A word about the illustrations. Our paper at first was mat, which did well enough for woodcuts, but failed dismally when we tried to reproduce the subtleties of such things as the Korean bronze types (November, 1953). Pricked by the fiasco of the Korean illustration, we introduced a semi-gloss paper in February, 1954 (Warren 80# Cumberland Dull). Since then, illustrations of all kinds have become a regular feature of the *Columns*.

Activities of the Friends

Meetings

Bancroft Awards Dinner. On Wednesday, April 20, members of the Friends of the Columbia Libraries and their guests gathered for the culminating event of the academic year—the Bancroft Awards Dinner which was held in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library. Mr. C. Waller Barrett, the Chairman of our association presided.

During the program, President Kirk announced the winners of the prizes for the two books judged by the Bancroft Prize Jury to be the best published in the field of American history during 1959: *In the Days of McKinley*, by Margaret Leech, and *The Age of the Democratic Revolution, a Political History of Europe and America, 1760-1800*, by R. R. Palmer. He presented a \$3000 check to Professor Palmer, who responded with a short address. Miss Leech was unable to be present. Certificates were presented to officers of Harper and Brothers and of the Princeton University Press, the publishers, respectively, of the two award-winning books. Mr. Cass Canfield of Harpers responded on behalf of Miss Leech. The principal speaker for the occasion was Dr. Louis B. Wright, the Director of the Folger Shakespeare Library and Chairman of the Advisory Board of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

Mrs. Albert M. Baer of the Friends' Council was Chairman of the Committee which made the arrangements.

Finances

Although we have customarily printed in the May issue of *Columns* the annual statement as to the amount which has been contributed by the Friends during the 12-month period ending on

March 31, the statement will be deferred until the next issue, which will be published in November. This shift, which will be continued in the future, has been made because the closing date for the May number has been moved forward into March, so that delivery of the printed copies can be made in late April. This will enable us to avoid the printing jam which occurs at Commencement time and which in some years has caused delay in delivery of our May issue until sometime in the ensuing month. We want to have it reach our members before the beginning of the summer vacation period in June.

Current and Forthcoming Exhibits

Nine years ago, when the Friends of the Columbia Libraries were being reorganized on the present basis, a Rotunda exhibition of fifty of our chief library treasures in all fields was installed for the opening meeting of the new organization. The exhibition, of which a printed catalog was prepared, was extremely successful, and we decided recently to place it on view again, this time in the display cases on the 3rd floor of Butler Library.

As might be expected, we have been unable to leave well enough alone. Many of the items originally shown are replaced in the new exhibition by others which have come to the Libraries since the Friends were reorganized. With these improvements, we feel that the display will bring added pleasure to its viewers, as it brings pride to us. These are our crown jewels: many of them have high sentimental value; others have great scholarly interest as individual documents; still others have been selected to represent areas of special strength in the Columbia Libraries.

One of the principal features of the exhibition is the evidence it supplies of the great benefits that have accrued and are continuing to accrue from the generosity of donors. The names of many recent benefactors appear in the exhibit labels, among them being many members of the Friends.

On May 15, at the close of the current display of Columbia's special treasures, an exhibition celebrating the 100th anniversary of the opening of Japanese-American diplomatic relations will be installed, to remain on view until about June 15. This exhibition will actually consist of two sections. In the Butler Library cases will be shown western-language materials only, while (from May 1 to June 1) Japanese language materials relating to the same subject will be on view in the Rotunda of Low Memorial Library.

From June 20 to July 1 a showing of the 1960 selections for the annual "50 Books of the Year" exhibit will be held under the auspices of the American Institute of Graphic Arts. This will be

in conjunction with, and part of, the International Book Exhibition which is to be held during the same period in the Rotunda. (The A.I.G.A. selections of current paper-backs, numbering 150 specimens, will also be shown.)

For the balance of the summer an exhibition of the works of Euclid, entitled "Euclid alone . . ." will be displayed.

THE FRIENDS OF THE COLUMBIA LIBRARIES

PRIVILEGES

INVITATIONS to exhibitions, lectures and other special events.

USE OF BOOKS in the reading rooms of the libraries.

OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT LIBRARIANS, including those in charge of the specialized collections, about material of interest to a member. (Each Division Head has our members' names on file.)

OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE most Columbia University Press books at 20 per cent discount (through the Secretary-Treasurer of the Friends).

FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO COLUMBIA LIBRARY COLUMNS.

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CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

ANNUAL. Any person contributing not less than \$10.00 per year (dues may be waived for officers of the University).

CONTRIBUTING. Any person contributing not less than \$25.00 a year.

SUSTAINING. Any person contributing not less than \$50.00 a year.

BENEFACTOR. Any person contributing not less than \$100.00 a year.

Checks should be made payable to Columbia University. All donations are deductible for income tax purposes.

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